

Zion Lutheran Church
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Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 20 & 24, 2024

In Repentance We Are Alert to the Coming of Christ

The signs of the end are all around us, constant reminders that “heaven and earth will pass away.” But all of these signs are centered in the cross of Christ, whereby He has conquered sin and death, that we might be raised with Him in righteousness through His Word of the Gospel, which “will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). He is “the firstborn of the dead,” who in His great love “has freed us from our sins by his blood” (Rev. 1:5). His salvation is certain because “his dominion is an everlasting dominion” and His Kingdom “shall not be destroyed” (Dan. 7:14). For this purpose He came into the world, to reign in love through His voice of the Gospel, which is the truth (John 18:37). So is the righteousness of Christ “a light to the peoples,” which “will never be dismayed” because it is the justice of His cross and resurrection (Is. 51:4–6). As He “is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory,” so wait upon “the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life” (Jude 20–24).

The Lord’s Supper is offered today at Zion. Communicant members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations are invited to commune at this altar. Please speak to our pastor if you have any questions about our communion practice. We would love to discuss the doctrine of the Lord’s Supper and joy of Christian fellowship. Please know the gifts of Jesus were given for you—but the proper spiritual preparation for communion is commanded by the Word of God (1 Cor 11:23-29). Those who do not yet commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to receive a Baptismal blessing) or you may remain in the pew during communion to join us in song and praise. There are no “offering” plates passed during the service. Rather, offering plates are set at the front pew. **You are invited to leave an offering of thanks to Christ on your way to communion** or any time during the first part of the service.

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING THE LORD’S HOUSE

Isaiah 51:6 – “For the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment.” The things of this earth that hold our attention, that cause us worry, that tempt us away from the Lord, are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over, but rather to use for the Lord’s purposes. The things of this world are not ends in and of themselves, but only means to be used wisely by the children of the kingdom that has no end. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE Setting Four

HYMN OF INVOCATION: “We Praise You and Acknowledge You” LSB #941

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 203

Introit

Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12a; antiphon:

*We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.*

*O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!*

*Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.*

*And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in you.*

*Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool!*

*Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry;
hold not your peace at my tears!*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

KYRIE: Page 204

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS: Page 204

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY: Page 205

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 51:4-6

EPISTLE READING: Jude 20-25

ALLELUIA and VERSE: Page 205

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

APOSTLE'S CREED: Page 207

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" *LSB #525*

SERMON: "Allured...Alert...Assured!" Mark 13:24-37

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: (See Prayer List on Page 6 of Bulletin)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT: Page 208

PREFACE: Page 208

SANCTUS: Page 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Page 209

THE LORDS PRAYER: Page 209

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: Page 209

PAX DOMINI: Page 209

AGNUS DEI: Page 210

DISTRIBUTION: "O Savior, Precious Savior" *LSB #527*

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" *LSB #549*

"Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" *LSB # 680*

NUNC DIMITTIS: Page 211

POST COMMUNION COLLECT: Page 212

BENEDICAMUS: Page 212

BENEDICTION: Page 212

CLOSING: "From All That Dwell Below the Skies" *LSB #816*

Our Lord's Current Business

Welcome to worship. The busy holiday season is nearly upon us. During this service, God, help me focus on your goodness, peace and love, the heart of all the upcoming celebration.

Pastor Adam Finney has declined the Call to serve at Zion. He didn't feel he was a good fit and that Zion may prefer a traditional LCMS pastor. After consulting with Pastor Wessel, our Circuit Pastor, the Call Committee unanimously agreed on scheduling another Congregational Call Meeting. The candidates are Pastors Castens, Gustafson, and Johnson. Please continue to pray for the Call process and a successful Call.

*Congregational Call Meeting
11:30 AM Sunday, December 1st, 2024
Zion Fellowship Hall*

On Sunday, December 1st after the worship service the church Christmas decorating will take place. Any assistance to bring the trees upstairs would be welcome.

Confirmation Corner

11/24 This week our confirmation program takes a break as we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. It is fitting though that our students are in the middle of the Apostles' Creed which reminds us of how God daily cares for us. We can rejoice and give thanks to Him for His loving care. "And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

Adult Choir - We are practicing songs for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. What a beautiful time of year to join your voices with fellow Christians! We meet every Thursday from 6:30-7:30. We would love to have you come! If

you have any questions, please contact Jane Reineke.

Sr. High Youth - We will be working on the porch pots and wreaths fundraiser on Tuesday, Nov. 26 beginning at 10:00. Come join us for this time of work, fun and fellowship. On December 1 the Sr. High Youth will help decorate the sanctuary during the education hour. Food will be provided! On December 8 there will be cookie making after the education hour! A lot is happening and all Sr. High Youth are invited to join in!

Quilters are in need of fabric and flat sheets, queen size or larger. Please share if you have any for them to continue with their beautiful work. The sheets can be given to any quilter or brought to the office. Thank you in advance.

Sunday School - We are beginning practicing for our Christmas service. The children will help lead our service on December 15 as we prepare to welcome our Savior Jesus. We meet at 10:30 in the basement gathering space for songs and learning.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study - This week we finish our series on Martin Luther. We will look at the power of words and what it meant for people to be able to read Scripture in their own language. Next week we start an Advent series that will focus on the four titles that were given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6

Fall Wreath & Porch Pot Fundraiser - Our Senior High Youth will be making and selling porch pots and wreaths for your Advent and Christmas decorating. Youth will be taking orders through Sunday, November 24. The items will be made on Tuesday, the 26th with pick-up starting after Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, Nov. 27.

Thanksgiving Services will be on Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m., the night before Thanksgiving. Pastor Joseph Reineke will be our guest pastor that evening.

Luke 3:11 box is once again under the Lobby window. Please share extra gently used winter coats, snow pants, boots, socks, hats, gloves, mittens and blankets/quilts.. They are also collecting personal hygiene items; Tooth brush/paste, shampoo, soap and deodorant. Please give only items on the list. Thank you.

Zion's Angel Tree is up by the Parish Hall. We have 5 families we will try to help through the holiday season. Our Christian Care Committee will also send out Hansen's gift certificates for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. If you would like to help, simply choose an angel from the tree. On the Angel you will find ages and gift ideas. Please write your name and number in our book so we know who has each Angel. Please have wrapped gifts with attached Angel back to Angel Tree by Dec 15th. If you would prefer, we also accept monetary donations to shop for any extra angels. Just address an envelope with Angel Tree. Thank you!!

Zion is in need of a committee that will plan future Sharing Table meals. The committee would be tasked with planning a meal and finding volunteers to make it a success. Volunteers for all aspects of the Sharing Table have never been a problem. The members of Zion are very willing to help. We simply need a group to organize three events a year. The meals are expected to be easy to prepare, like soup and sandwiches as the budget per meal is \$300.00. The burden has been on the Ladies Society since the Sharing Table returned after Covid 19. Zion is obligated to provide meals in February and May 2025. The new committee will plan the February Sharing Table. Please

contact John Schultz if you have any questions or would like to be on the committee.

Our Lord's On-Going Business

Please check the Resource Room for Lost Items. Numerous items are seeking their rightful owner.

Thanksgiving cards & napkins are located in our Resource Center. Single purchase cards and other boxed cards all with Christian sentiments. This is a service of your Zion Ladies Society (not a money maker) so we keep the prices low. *Puzzles* are also available year around for your downtime pleasure.

Old eyeglasses laying around? There is a collection basket in the Resource Room for them. A Lions Club member will pick them up. They will be distributed to those in need. Thank you for your donation.

ZION'S PRAYER LIST:

The call process here at Zion for guidance on decisions being God's Will.

For those seeking healing: Scott Anderson Julie Dobson, Jeff Kacures, Mary Rolandt, Stella, Luther Larson, Emily Woodworth, Susan Loomis, Ed Gunderson, Ron Laehn, Marge Linse, Peggy Waldbillig, Elsie Steinbach, Jackie, Shadie, Savannah Au, Donna Seltrecht, Marvin Stay, Lois Stay, David Bloss, Jean Fleming, Jean Sandberg.

Thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays: Ava Buttke, Sharon Bauer, Debra Skoug, Matthew Gavin, George Benning, David Gruber, Diane Prund, Mark Benning, Morgan Kacures, Jean Weiss, Tom Casey, Ken Blodgett, Karn Mohn.

Thanksgiving for those celebrating anniversaries: Dan & Laura Nowaskey.

**LaRae Grotzinger has volunteered to help coordinate our prayer chain. If you have any updates to this list, please contact her (.), the office, or Pastor. You may also utilize the prayer box found in the narthex.*



OUR WEEK'S WORK

November 24-December 1, 2024)

MON.	Monday Night Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
TUES.	Sr High Youth	10:00 a.m.
	Rachel Circle	1:30 p.m.
WEDS.	Quilters	9:30 a.m.
	Thanksgiving Divine Service	7:00 p.m.
SUN.	Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
	Christian Education	10:30 a.m.
	Christmas Decorating	10:30 a.m.
	Congregational Call Meeting	11:30 a.m.



A Stewardship Thought

Isaiah 51:6 – “For the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment.” The things of this earth that hold our attention, that cause us worry, that tempt us away from the Lord, are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over, but rather to use for the Lord’s purposes. The things of this world are not ends in and of themselves, but only means to be used wisely by the children of the kingdom that has no end



OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK

Attendance: Weds. 31 Sunday 93
 Sunday School 21

General Offering:	\$	2905.49
TIM	\$	105.00
Memorial Fund	\$	300.00
Labor of Love	\$	20.00
Budget Year-to -Date:	\$	214,857.26
Offerings Year-to -Date:	\$	231,174.67
Expenses EOM-YTD	\$	217,193.00



SERVING THIS WEEK

(November 20 & 24, 2024)

Accom:	Mary Gehrke		
Elder:	Joe Osenga	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Matt Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Louie Moyer	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	John Gehrke	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter:	Nancy Jardine	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Brenda McKissick	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Jayden Miller	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Amelia Bethke	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Reid Williamson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Kate Williamson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Screen:	Osenga Family	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Dave Reineke	Sun.	9:00 a.m.

Finance: Dan Hill & Frank Standaert
 Altar Guild: Rina Ashwell, Julie Loscheider and Emily Benning.



SERVING NEXT WEEK SCHEDULE

(November 27 & December 1, 2024)

Accom:	Mary Gehrke		
Elder:	Gene Schultz	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Craig Loscheider	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Austin Harper	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Keith Reinhardt	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter:	LaRae Grotzinger	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Diane Pfund	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Mason McDonough	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Makinley McDonough	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Jacob Loscheider	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Ben Linse	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Screen:	Katie Harris	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Linse Family	Sun.	9:00 a.m.

Finance: Brenda McKissick & Mike Ashwell
 Altar Guild: Rina Ashwell, Julie Loscheider and Emily Benning, Betty Sessions & Julie Vollmer